



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Community Receives Juneteenth Grant for Celebration **Multiple organizations collaborating to plan a weekend celebration**

December 1st, 2022: Community Partnership of the Ozarks (CPO) received a \$35,000.00 grant from the Missouri Division of Tourism to expand and build on Juneteenth in our community. Multiple organizations have come together to plan a weekend-long celebration for the region that will honor and bring more awareness to Juneteenth.

Juneteenth is observed on June 19th as the commemoration for the end of slavery in the United States. This important holiday serves as a national celebration of freedom. Darline Mabins, CPO's Community Diversity & Equity Director says "We are so excited to be given the opportunity to work alongside the Springfield NAACP Chapter (that for many years has held the Juneteenth Festival in historic Silver Springs Park) and many other organizations as well as public and private sector employers to expand on what has been done in the past for our local Juneteenth celebration. Springfield's strong history of collaboration will be on full display as we work on the 2023 celebration. There is much energy and excitement around the possibilities. This is going to be a very special weekend for our city and region."

Community organizations have started planning for Juneteenth and are working to build a weekend-long celebration with a wide variety of opportunities for people from across the region to experience Juneteenth. More details will be announced as we get closer to the event. To help grow this event, donations are accepted, and sponsorships are available. To make a donation, go to www.cpozarks.org/juneteenth. To learn more about sponsorship opportunities or other ways to get involved, email dmabins@cpozarks.org.

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ABOUT COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP OF THE OZARKS

The mission of Community Partnership of the Ozarks is to facilitate and promote the building of resilient children, healthy families, and strong neighborhoods and communities through collaboration, programming and resource development. For more information on the Partnership's collaborative efforts and programs, visit www.cpozarks.org.